

Reports on International Child Labor and/or Forced Labor

U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of International Labor Affairs



"Now is the time for us to redouble our efforts, renew our commitments, and follow through. Because no one has the right to threaten the health, education, and well-being of children by involving them in illegal or inappropriate work. No family should have to depend on the labor of its children to put food on the table and no person should be forced to work in captivity."

– Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis, December 15, 2010

About the Reports

TDA Report: The Department of Labor's annual Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor was mandated by the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (TDA). ILAB has published this report each year since 2002. The TDA requires that countries fulfill commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor to be eligible for certain U.S. trade preference programs. The report focuses on the efforts of certain U.S. trade beneficiary countries to implement these commitments through their legislation, enforcement efforts, policies, and social programs. In addition, the report presents findings on the prevalence and sectoral distribution of the worst forms of child labor in each country.

- The 2009 TDA report provides information to the public on the worst forms of child labor in 144 countries and territories.
- The 2009 TDA report has been reformatted, and for the first time, highlights findings related to gaps in government efforts and includes country-specific suggestions for government action.
- By providing more analysis and specific suggestions for action, the redesigned report provides Congress and Executive Branch agencies with useful information to consider when making labor and trade policy.
- At the same time, the TDA report illustrates good practices and significant efforts many governments are making to address the worst forms of child labor.
- The TDA report will be an important resource for ILAB to assess future technical assistance and research priorities as it seeks to combat child labor around the world.
- The report and Frequently Asked Questions are available on DOL's web site at: <http://www.dol.gov/ilab/highlights/if-20101215.htm>.

TVPRA List/Report: The Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (TVPRA) mandates that ILAB "develop and make available to the public a list of goods from countries that [ILAB] has reason to believe are produced by forced labor or child labor in violation of international standards." In 2007, ILAB published procedural guidelines governing the development and maintenance of this List. ILAB published its initial TVPRA List on September 10, 2009, and released its first update on December 15, 2010.

- The 2009 initial TVPRA List included 122 goods from 58 countries. The 2010 update adds 6 new goods and 12 new countries, for totals of 128 goods from 70 countries.
- The TVPRA List is published as part of a report explaining the legislative mandate, research process, methodology, scope, limitations, and findings in order to provide context and transparency to stakeholders.





- A bibliography published on DOL's web site provides full citations for all data sources used to place goods on the TVPRA List.
- The initial TVPRA List was developed from research on 77 selected countries, and the 2010 update is based on research on 39 additional countries. ILAB continues to research additional goods and countries and will update the TVPRA List periodically.
- The TVPRA List is not intended to be punitive or to shame industries or countries. In many cases, the countries appearing most frequently on the TVPRA List are those that have adopted a more open approach to research and action on child labor and forced labor. The report commends the leadership of certain governments and industries to address these problems.
- The primary purpose of the TVPRA List is to make the public aware of the significant incidence of child labor and forced labor in the production of certain goods and, in turn, to promote efforts to eliminate such practices.
- The TVPRA List will also be an important resource for ILAB to assess future technical assistance and research priorities, as it continues to fund and collaborate with a variety of stakeholders on activities to combat child labor and forced labor around the world.
- The TVPRA List report and Frequently Asked Questions are available on DOL's web site at: <http://www.dol.gov/ILAB/programs/ocft/tvptra.htm>.

EO 13126 List: ILAB maintains a List of products pursuant to Executive Order (EO) 13126 of 1999, "Prohibition of Acquisition of Products Produced by Forced or Indentured Child Labor." The EO does not ban federal procurement of goods on the EO List, but it requires federal contractors that supply products on the List to certify that they have made a good faith effort to ensure that forced or indentured child labor was not used in the production of those goods. In 2001, ILAB published procedural guidelines governing the maintenance and revision of the EO List and also published a list of 11 products from 2 countries made by forced or indentured child labor. On July 20, 2010, after issuance of an initial determination and review of public comments, DOL, in consultation and cooperation with the Departments of State (DOS) and Homeland Security (DHS), published a final determination revising the EO List to include 29 products from 21 countries. On December 15, 2010 ILAB announced proposed revisions to the EO List, including adding one product and removing one product.

- The December 16, 2010 initial determination published in the Federal Register announces proposed revisions to the July 20, 2010 EO List, namely removing charcoal from Brazil and adding hand-woven textiles from Ethiopia. The Department will accept public comments for a period of 60 days, after which time it will issue a final determination, in consultation and cooperation with DHS and DOS. The July 2010 EO List remains in effect until a final determination is issued.
- The following factors are considered and weighed when revising the EO List: the nature, source and date of the information; the extent of corroboration; whether the information involved more than an isolated incident; and whether recent and credible efforts are being made to address forced or indentured child labor in a particular country and industry.
- A bibliography published on DOL's web site provides full citations for all data sources used to place products on the EO List.
- The Executive Order is intended to ensure that federal agencies enforce laws relating to forced or indentured child labor in the procurement process. The EO applies to all purchases made by the Federal government, both domestically and in overseas facilities, including military bases and embassies.
- The proposed revision to the EO List and Frequently Asked Questions are available on DOL's web site at: <http://www.dol.gov/ILAB/regs/EO13126/main.htm>.